

# Emergency Preparedness Checklist for Households

#	Question	Why This Is Important	Yes	No	Needs Work
1	Do you know your primary and secondary evacuation routes from your home?	Roads may flood or be blocked — knowing two ways out increases your safety options.			
2	Do you have a family communication plan (who to call/text and in what order)?	Cell service can be spotty — a plan helps family members reconnect quickly.			
3	Do you have a battery-powered or hand-crank radio?	Local news and weather alerts may be your only source of information during a power outage.			
4	Do you keep at least 3 days of drinking water (1 gallon per person per day)?	Water service may be interrupted or unsafe to drink after severe weather.			
5	Do you keep non-perishable food for at least 3 days?	Grocery stores may be closed or inaccessible during/after the storm.			
6	Do you have a flashlight and extra batteries in an easy-to-find spot?	Power outages often occur at night — quick access improves safety and comfort.			
7	Is your medication supply enough for at least 7 days?	Pharmacies may close for several days after a storm.			
8	Do you have a first aid kit?	Emergency services may be delayed — basic supplies help with minor injuries.			
9	Do you know the safest room in your home for sheltering during high winds?	A safe space without windows reduces injury risk from flying debris.			
10	Do you have sandbags or flood barriers if your home is in a flood-prone area?	Reduces water intrusion and damage during heavy rain or storm surge.			
11	Is your vehicle fueled to at least half a tank during storm season?	Fuel stations may close or run out of gas during evacuations.			
12	Do you have important documents in a waterproof container (ID, insurance, medical info)?	Makes recovery and assistance easier after a disaster.			
13	Do you have pets and a plan for their shelter, food, and water?	Shelters and hotels may have restrictions — planning ahead prevents last-minute problems.			
14	Are your outside items secured (furniture, trash cans, decorations)?	These can become dangerous projectiles during strong winds.			
15	Do you know the nearest shelter and its rules (pets, supplies)?	Avoids confusion and delays if evacuation becomes necessary.			
16	Have you reviewed your home insurance for storm and flood coverage?	Prevents costly surprises after a disaster.			
17	Do you have a generator or backup power plan?	Keeps essentials running during prolonged outages.			
18	Does every adult know how to shut off gas, water, and electricity?	Prevents fires, flooding, and gas leaks after damage.			